School Crossing Patrol Signs

1. SIGN UPSIDE DOWN
   Figure 1 - Sign upside down
   Not ready to cross pedestrians

2. SIGN SIDEWAYS
   Figure 2 - Sign sideways
   Barrier to stop pedestrians

3. SIGN HELD UP HIGH
   Figure 3 - Sign held up high
   All vehicles must stop

4. SIGN EXTENDED OUT
   Figure 4 - Extended out
   Stop if approaching and wait if already stopped

Please support your local School Crossing Patrol Service
Did you know that School Crossing Patrols are able to assist all vulnerable and disabled persons - not just children!

Information for Parents & Drivers
**About the Service**

The school warden service helps thousands of children to cross roads safely during school term. The school wardens are identifiable by their high visibility uniforms and the ‘STOP’ sign they use to stop traffic.

**Drivers**

When approaching a school you should reduce your speed and be prepared to stop, also be patient and considerate. School Crossing Patrols need to see and be seen! It can be difficult to see children on the pavement, especially if there are parked cars by the school. Children may run into the road without thinking about traffic.

If you are a driver, remember:

- When stopping to drop off children stop and or park well clear of the crossing so that the Patrol can see and operate safely.
- By law, you **MUST** stop when signalled to do so by a Patrol displaying a Stop sign.
- Remain patient and do not move forward until the Patrol is safely back on the pavement at the side of the road.
- Do not park close to where a Patrol is working and **NEVER** on the zigzag markings.
- Look out for signs or flashing amber lights which warn of a School Crossing Patrol ahead.
- Park Safely, with courtesy and with consideration for others, observing all parking regulations in accordance with the Rules of the Road and in such a way that our children are able to enter and leave the school safely.

The law governing the appointment of School Traffic Wardens is (Section 96) of the Road Traffic Act, 1961:

| Penalty in court if paid in 28 days | €80 | 2 Penalty point |
| Penalty in court if paid after 28 days | €120 | 5 Penalty points |

**Parents/Guardians**

Even where a school crossing patrol is provided, parents remain responsible for making sure their children get to school safely, just as they do when a zebra crossing or pelican crossing is provided. Make sure your child understands the rules for School crossings. When children arrive at the crossing point:

- The Patrol will tell them to wait on the pavement and use the Stop sign as a barrier to prevent them from edging forward, until they are called across (see Fig.2 overleaf).
- The Patrol will then use the Stop sign to instruct traffic to stop (see Fig.3). The Patrol may need to wait for a safe gap in the traffic. **DO NOT FOLLOW THE PATROL INTO THE ROAD.**
- When the traffic has stopped, the Patrol will enter into the road crossing and when safe to do so call you over (see Fig 4). Please walk in front of the Patrol so he or she can see you.
- The Patrol will remain in the centre of the road until all the children and adults have completed crossing the road.
- If the Patrol is unwell or the site becomes vacant we will inform the school as soon as possible.

Even where the Stop sign is raised Children must wait until they are called to cross!

When called to cross: Do not run but walk and complete the crossing (Do not turn back halfway across) If you need to go back, complete the crossing and wait until called to cross again by the Warden.

**REMEMBER**

It is an offence for a driver who fails to stop..................

Please slow down when approaching a Patrol

Remember that a child struck at 20kph will most likely survive but at 40kph they will almost certainly die.